WO 2005/076306 PCT/F12005/000069

6

## CLAIMS

- 1. A fuse holder comprising a frame (2), spring means and limiter means (6), the frame (2) comprising a first contact member (8) and a second contact member (10) adapted to receive an end (18) of the fuse between them, the spring means being adapted to press the contact members (8, 10) against the fuse end (18) to achieve an electrically conductive connection between the contact members (8, 10) and the fuse end (18), and the limiter means (6) being adapted to define the largest possible depth of the fuse end (18) in the installation direction between the first (8) and second (10) contact members, **c** h a **r** a **c** t e **r** i z e **d** in that the spring means comprise a ring spring (4) having substantially a form of a circular arch and adapted to also serve as the limiter means (6).
- 2. A fuse holder as claimed in claim 1, **characterized** in that the ring spring (4) is placed in such a manner that when the fuse end (18) is at said largest possible depth in the installation direction between the contact members (8, 10), the fuse end (18) is in contact with a middle portion located between the ends of the ring spring (4).
- 3. A fuse holder as claimed in claim 2, **characterized** in that the ring spring (4) is located substantially on a plane that is at a predetermined angle (a) relative to the installation direction of the fuse end.
- 4. A fuse holder as claimed in claim 3, **characterized** in that said predetermined angle (a) is between  $0^{\circ}$  and  $45^{\circ}$ .
- 5. A fuse holder as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that the frame (2) is provided with means (12) for holding the ends of the ring spring (4) in place.
- 6. A fuse holder as claimed in claim 5, **characterized** in that said means (12) for holding the ends of the ring spring in place comprise two recesses (14) provided in the frame (2), each recess (14) being adapted to receive a corresponding end of the ring spring.
- 7. A fuse holder as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, **characterized** in that the frame (2) is provided with means (16) for supporting a middle portion located between the ends of the ring spring.
- 8. A fuse holder as claimed in claim 7, **characterized** in that the means (16) for supporting the middle portion located between the ends of the ring spring are adapted to support the middle portion of the ring spring in a

WO 2005/076306 PCT/FI2005/000069

7

direction opposite relative to the installation direction of the fuse end.

9. A fuse holder as claimed in claim 7 or 8, **c h a r a c t e r i z e d** in that the means (16) for supporting the middle portion located between the ends of the ring spring are adapted to prevent the ring spring (4) from rotating around an axis passing via its ends.

10. A fuse holder as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, **c h a r a c t e r i z e d** in that the cross-section of the frame (2) is substantially U-shaped in such a manner that a first branch (20) of the frame (2) comprises the first contact member (8), and a second branch (22) of the frame comprises the second contact member (10).